

filtered fluid was boiled with solution of potash, when traces of manganese were precipitated. Solution of sulphuretted hydrogen then rendered the presence of zinc in the filtrate quite evident.

“Another portion of the fluid filtered from the iron precipitate was precipitated at once by sulphuret of ammonium, the dried precipitate calcined in a platinum crucible, moistened with nitric acid, again calcined, and then treated with dilute acetic acid; the zinc was precipitated from the solution in acetic acid by solution of sulphuretted hydrogen.

“From another portion of the herb, freed from external impurities, the juice was expressed, and the presence of zinc in this was also distinctly proved by the above process.”

This metal must therefore be added to the eighteen elements hitherto known to occur in the vegetable organism.—Poggendorff's *Annalen*, vol. xcii. p. 175.

Notes on the Bovine Animals of the Malay Peninsula.

By GEORGE WINDSOR EARL.

1. The Sapi, or Wild Ox of the Malay Peninsula, was scarcely known to exist until 1850, when Dr. Oxley, and a hunting-party from Singapore, killed a young cow on the banks of the Muah River. He described it as 6 feet 2 inches high at the shoulder, from hoof to dorsal vertebræ; back curved, highest about the centre. Horns small, curved inwards, white, tipped with black. Forehead flat, with tuft of long hair, large in the bulls. Hair smooth and silky. Colour brown, with white about the feet. Mane 2 inches long, running along the entire back. No dewlap. The bulls are from 7 to 7½ feet high. The flesh is described as delicious. Calves could be obtained with a little trouble, but I suspect it would be difficult to get a full-grown animal; but he would be worth something if caught.

2. The Saladang, another species of wild cattle, is even less known than the Sapi, as no specimen has yet been shot by Europeans. It seems to me to be a sort of Bison, or *Bos Gaurus*. The males are 10 feet high at the shoulder, and they are altogether fiercer and more formidable than the Sapi, but not so graceful. In my opinion it would be worth while for the Zoological Society to send a man out expressly for the purpose of bringing home specimens of these two beasts. The Muah River, where both varieties abound, would be the best spot to seek them; and Inchi Basow, a Malay chief who takes great delight in hunting, would soon procure live specimens of each at a small expense.

3. The Water Buffalo does not seem to be known in England, although it is common all over the Archipelago. The larger specimens stand 7 feet at the shoulder, sometimes more. Barrel very large. Legs short and strong. Skin black and wrinkled, and almost hairless, like that of the Elephant. It is amphibious, and has been known to swim across straits as wide as the Channel at Dover; in fact, the way the head is set on the body, with the nose up, and the

horns lying along the back, shows that it is more adapted for the water than the land, although it is an excellent draught animal, and at Singapore supplies the place of the Elephant.

4. The Domestic Ox of Bali and Lombok, a large, sleek, thin-skinned species, as graceful as the Antelope. This would be very much admired in the Gardens. Specimens can be obtained at Singapore, but it would be better to get them from Lombok, whence ships now come direct to England with cargoes of rice. Mr. Lange of Bali Badong (merchant) would, I have no doubt, forward specimens at a trifling cost.—*Proc. Zool. Soc.* Feb. 8, 1853.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS FOR AUG. 1854.

Chiswick.—August 1. Cloudy: clear. 2. Clear: very fine: heavy rain at night. 3. Overcast: rain. 4. Overcast: heavy rain. 5. Rain: overcast. 6, 7. Overcast: clear. 8. Very fine. 9. Fine: overcast: very clear at night. 10, 11. Very fine. 12. Densely clouded: very clear at night. 13. Very fine. 14. Cloudy: very fine: clear. 15. Very clear: cloudy: clear. 16. Fine: overcast. 17. Fine: rain: very clear. 18. Fine: cloudy. 19. Very clear. 20. Cloudy and fine. 21. Overcast. 22. Cloudy and fine: clear. 23. Overcast: rather boisterous, with rain. 24. Fine: cloudy and boisterous: fine. 25. Fine. 26. Exceedingly fine. 27. Very fine: overcast. 28. Very fine. 29. Very hot. 30. Cloudless and very hot, with dry air. 31. Very fine.

Mean temperature of the month	60°·70
Mean temperature of Aug. 1853	59·69
Mean temperature of Aug. for the last twenty-eight years...	62·03
Average amount of rain in Aug.	2·47 inches.

Boston.—Aug. 1, 2. Cloudy: rain A.M. and P.M. 3. Cloudy. 4. Cloudy: rain A.M. and P.M. 5—9. Cloudy. 10, 11. Fine. 12, 13. Cloudy. 14. Cloudy: rain P.M. 15. Fine: rain P.M. 16. Fine. 17. Cloudy: rain P.M. 18. Cloudy. 19. Fine. 20. Fine: rain. 21. Cloudy: rain A.M. 22. Fine: rain, with thunder and lightning P.M. 23. Cloudy. 24. Fine: rain P.M. 25. Fine. 26, 27. Cloudy. 28—30. Fine. 31. Cloudy.

Sandwich Manse, Orkney.—Aug. 1. Fog A.M.: drizzle P.M. 2. Bright A.M.: clear P.M. 3, 4. Cloudy A.M. and P.M. 5. Damp A.M.: drizzle P.M. 6. Cloudy A.M.: drizzle P.M. 7. Cloudy A.M.: damp P.M. 8, 9. Cloudy A.M.: drops P.M. 10. Cloudy A.M.: clear, fine P.M. 11. Bright A.M.: bright, fine P.M. 12. Cloudy A.M.: showers P.M. 13. Showers A.M.: clear, fine P.M. 14. Cloudy A.M.: rain, thunder P.M. 15. Bright A.M.: cloudy P.M. 16. Bright A.M.: clear P.M. 17. Bright, fine A.M.: clear, fine P.M. 18. Clear, fine A.M.: cloudy P.M. 19. Cloudy A.M.: showers, aurora P.M. 20. Bright A.M.: cloudy, fine P.M. 21. Drops A.M.: showers P.M. 22. Showers A.M.: cloudy P.M. 23. Rain, cloudy A.M.: showers P.M. 24. Showers A.M. and P.M. 25. Cloudy A.M. and P.M. 26. Drizzle A.M.: cloudy P.M. 27. Damp A.M.: cloudy P.M. 28. Cloudy A.M. and P.M. 29. Cloudy A.M.: rain P.M. 30. Showers A.M. and P.M. 31. Showers A.M.: cloudy P.M.

Mean temperature of Aug. for twenty-seven previous years .	54°·99
Mean temperature of this month	55·06
Mean temperature of Aug. 1853	55·98
Average quantity of rain in Aug. for fourteen previous years .	2·99 inches.